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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/737,430	12/15/2000	Ching-Jye Chang	AUS9-2000-0698-US1	1939

7590

04/09/2004

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EXAMINER

VU, THONG H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2142

DATE MAILED: 04/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

3

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/737,430

Applicant(s)

CHANG ET AL.

Examiner

Thong H Vu

Art Unit

2142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

1. Claims 1-24 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2, 9-10 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Arndt et al [Arndt 5,724,510]

3. As per claim 9, Arndt discloses an apparatus for managing devices within a distributed data processing system, the apparatus comprising:

receiving means for receiving a request for an action at a target device within the distributed data processing system, wherein the request for an action at the target device uniquely identifies the target device using a system address for the target device (i.e.: unique IP address), wherein completion of the action depends upon a network address of the target device within the distributed data processing system [Arndt, receiving responses from network device according to request, the responses contained IP and MAC addresses, col 12 lines 5-10]; and

reporting means (i.e.: detecting) for reporting in response to a determination that a second device within the distributed data processing system has a network address that duplicates the network address of the target device, the duplicate network address to a user along with other system address information for the target device and the

Art Unit: 2142

second device [Arndt, detect duplicate IP address, col 4 lines 25-44, col 6 lines 17-32; col 7 lines 4-55; col 8 lines 9-62].

4. As per claim 10, Arndt discloses displaying means for displaying the duplicate network address and other system address information to the user [Arndt, display to the LAN user, col 8 lines 39-46].

5. Claims 1-2 and 17-18 contain the similar limitations set forth of apparatus claims 9-10. Therefore, claims 1-2 and 17-18 are rejected for the similar rationale set forth in claims 9-10.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 3-8,11-16,19-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Arndt et al [Arndt 5,724,510] in view of Philippou et al [Philippou 6,385,648 B1]

7. As per claim 11, Arndt discloses a network with subnet using SNMP [Arndt, col 6 line 49-col7line 25]. However Arndt does not detail requiring means for requiring the user to enter a virtual private network identifier (VPN ID) to be associated with the target device.

A skilled artisan would have motivation to improve the technique of detecting the duplicate address and found Philippou teaching. Philippou discloses a communications

Art Unit: 2142

network wherein a network ID is modified by a network administrator [Philippou, col5 lines 35-45]. An Official Notice is taken that the technique of modifying a destination address on virtual network was well-known in the art [see Yu, col 18 lines 40-50]

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take advance the technique of entering the network ID as taught by Philippou into the Arndt's apparatus in order to utilize the detecting process. Doing so would provide a simple and reliable process to detect the duplicate address on network.

8. As per claim 12, Arndt-Philippou disclose generating means for generating a modified system address for the target device based on the entered VPN ID and other system address information for the target device as inherent feature of entering the network ID.

9. As per claim 13, Arndt-Philippou disclose accepting means for accepting user input to assign the entered VPN ID to a network scope associated with the target device [Philippou, col5 lines 35-45]

10. As per claim 14, Arndt-Philippou disclose assigning means for assigning the entered VPN TD to a network scope associated with the target device [Philippou, col5 lines 35-45].

Art Unit: 2142

11. As per claim 15, Arndt-Philippou disclose generating means for generating a modified system address for each device in a same scope as the target device based on the entered VPN ID and other system address information associated with each device in the same scope as the target device as inherent feature of entering the network ID.

12. As per claim 16, Arndt-Philippou disclose executing means for executing the requested action using the modified system address as inherent feature of entering the network ID.

13. Claims 3-8 and 19-24 contain the similar limitations set forth of apparatus claims 11-16. Therefore, claims 3-8 and 19-24 are rejected for the similar rationale set forth in claims 11-16.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Thong Vu, whose telephone number is (703)-305-4643. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00AM- 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, *Jack Harvey*, can be reached at (703) 305-9705.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9700.

Any response to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 or faxed to :

After Final (703) 746-7238

Official: (703) 746-7239

Non-Official (703) 746-7240

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 11,2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Thong Vu
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2142

